

PRESS RELEASE

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For immediate publication

Ormiston Venture Academy acknowledges the class of 2014

On Thursday 15 January, Ormiston Venture Academy hosted its annual graduation ceremony for the previous years' cohort of year 11s. Students dressed in formal robes and a cap to receive their diplomas from the principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham. A number of students were also rewarded as being the highest achievers in their year group, with a commemorative sash.

Executive principal, Ms Nicole McCartney and the Chair of the governing board Mrs Lesley King, joined principal Simon Gilbert-Barnham in addressing the students and audience, praising their work ethic and continued support. VIP's from Hydramec and Norwich City Football Club attended and commented with huge admiration on the conduct, maturity and success of the students.

Quotes: From Mr Gilbert-Barnham

You are aspiring towards your dreams through Gresham's, apprenticeships, NCFC, Sixth Form College and employment.

You created amazing pieces of work that demonstrate your talent and that are still showcased throughout the Academy today.

You have led on innovation through the union of Venture students... a lasting legacy that all students now benefit from and is celebrated nationally as a world class student leadership system.

Daniel Symonds – this year's Gresham's scholar concluded proceedings with a rousing speech encouraging his peers to achieve their goals in life and not to fear making mistakes – as long as they are learnt from!

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITOR:

About Ormiston Venture Academy:

- Ormiston Venture Academy (Venture) opened in September 2010 in the existing buildings of the predecessor school, Oriel High School.
- Venture is sponsored by the Ormiston Academies Trust and specialises in digital media and mathematics.

- Venture is dedicated to creating a personalised, inclusive environment where every child can feel safe, enjoy and achieve. This is supported by the belief that every child has the potential to succeed when tradition is valued and innovation embraced.
- Venture watchwords are ASPIRE, ACHIEVE, CREATE and INNOVATE.
- Venture provides a student-centred, innovative learning environment with a creative curriculum.
- Venture specialises in mathematics and digital media.
- Venture has 650 students from year 7 through to year 11.
- Ofsted report May 2013 declared Ormiston Venture Academy **outstanding**:
 - 'Inspired leadership from the Principal has transformed the quality of education provided for students. Her determination to raise their aspirations and achievement has led to rapid and sustained improvements.'
 - 'Standards have risen from well below to above the national average since opening.'

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